

A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville



A scale model of the proposed Chestnut Lodge community includes the former lodge (center) renovated into condominiums.

## Chestnut Lodge: 44 Residences Proposed

The Mayor and Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, Sept. 26, to consider a developer's proposal to build 36 new single-family homes with detached garages, as well as seven condominium units, in the West End neighborhood of Rockville. The 20.4-acre site, known as Chestnut Lodge, was once home to one of the nation's foremost psychiatric hospitals.

The site, which is one of the City's few remaining undeveloped properties of significant size, is nestled among historic homes and adjacent to a newer development along West Montgomery Avenue. The Mayor and Council have worked with the current and previous owners to preserve most of the historic buildings on the property.

Rockville's Planning Commission discussed the proposal at its meeting on Aug. 15 and will make a recommendation to the Mayor and Council on Sept. 14. The public hearing to be conducted by the Mayor and Council will be at City Hall on Sept. 26 starting at 7 p.m. It will be televised live on The Rockville Channel (cable channel 11).

Developer Morton Levine, president of Chestnut Lodge Properties, is proposing that the

Chestnut Lodge main building be converted into seven condominiums. He also proposes that the building known as the "Little Lodge" be rehabilitated so that it may be used again as a single-

family dwelling unit. According to the proposal, the building known as "Frieda's Cottage" would be given to Peerless Rockville, the organization dedicated to preserving Rockville's history, to become either a museum or library.

The application for a Planned Residential Unit (PRU) seeks to preserve the eight acres fronting West Montgomery Avenue as open space. However, the application proposes that the significant amount of open space on the site be maintained by the future homeowners association not the City. The developer also has asked for other modifications, including having detached garages that exceed height limits set in the City's Zoning Ordinance.

On July 21, Rockville's Historic District Commission approved the developer's application to reconstruct the buildings on the property known as "the icehouse" and the "stable." The HDC also approved demolition of the building known as the "Upper Cottage." **RR**

### NEXT STEP

- ✓ Mayor and Council hold Public Hearing, Monday, Sept. 26, 7 p.m.

## Arts Building to be Five Stories High

### State, County to Pay for Additional Two Floors to House 'Business Incubator'

The Rockville Cultural Arts Building, which will be built adjacent to the new Rockville Regional Library as part of the Rockville Town Square Development, will be a five-story building with the two top floors housing a "technology incubator" to help startup businesses get established.

The incubator has been strongly backed by the City's economic development entity, Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI), which originated the project, oversaw the study that determined the focus of the incubator and brought in the county and state partners.

The two upper floors, which were added to the original building plan, initially will be owned by the Maryland Economic Development Corporation (MEDCO) and operated by the Montgomery County Department of Economic Development. Financing will be provided through a \$1 million grant from the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) and a commercial loan with Mercantile Potomac Bank.

Rockville's Mayor and Council voted on Aug. 1 to approve the revised plan. The City's Planning Commission on Aug. 15 recommended issuing a use permit.

The building will have three owners: The City, MEDCO and Federal Realty Investment Trust.

The City will pay approximately \$5.2 million toward the overall price. It also will lease the second and third floors to Rockville Arts Place, which was a fixture in Town Center before it was temporarily relocated to a space just north of the City on Gaither Road in Gaithersburg. Rockville Arts Place, which will be renamed the Metropolitan Center for Visual Arts in Rockville (MCVAR), has committed to raising the money

needed to build out the interior of its space.

The City also will retain some retail space on the first floor and approximately 5,900 square feet on the building's roof. The roof could be used for receptions or rented for private affairs.

Federal Realty will pay \$794,000 for approximately 8,193 square feet of retail space on the first floor (no tenants have been announced).

Construction of the two-floor, 25,500-square-foot incubator shell will cost approximately \$3.7 million.

The incubator will provide working space, resources and advisory help to startup businesses. Montgomery County is building a portfolio of incubators. The Rockville Town Center informatics and international incubator will join two county incubators already established and

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three others in planning stages.

"The Mayor and Council's support of building the incubator in Rockville demonstrates the City's intent to help an important area of the business community," said Sally Sternbach, executive director of REDI. "Rockville has gained a world-wide reputation in the bio-tech and high-tech communities—and many of the discoveries that were born here started with ambitious ideas that needed help in becoming operational businesses. This incubator will ensure that future entrepreneurs continue that tradition in Rockville." **RR**



**NO SNOOZING AT THE ROCKVILLE ARTS AND MUSIC FESTIVAL...** Best known for his hit song, "Lullaby," singer/songwriter Shawn Mullins will play a free concert in Rockville Town Center on Saturday, Sept. 24. The Arts and Music festival also features a chili cook-off, dancing and more.

## Mayor and Council Focus

### Upcoming Agenda Items to Watch

**Sept. 12 (Mon.)**

- Citizens Forum. Worksession: Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance. Discussion of Mansionization. 7 p.m.

**Sept. 19 (Mon.)**

- Discussion of Zoning Ordinance Revisions. Joint Worksession with

Planning Commission on various applications (tentative). 7 p.m.

**Sept. 26 (Mon.)**

- Citizens Forum. Public Hearings (Chestnut Lodge, Community Development Block Grants). Cultural Arts Building Use Permit. 7 p.m.

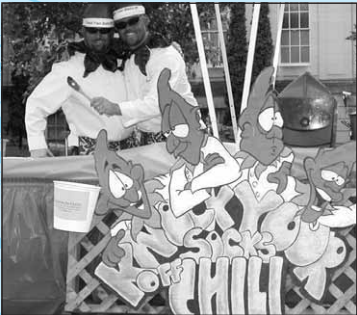
## September's Best of Rockville

### Sept. 10

**Doggie Dip Day** Wet and wild fun as dogs are allowed to swim in the City's municipal outdoor pools in third annual event. 12 noon-4 p.m. Rockville Swim Center. \$5 per dog. 240-314-8750. (See story, Page 6.)

### Sept. 24

**Rockville Arts & Music Festival** Hard Times Chili Cook Off, free concerts, dance performances, kids activities and much more. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Rockville Town Center. 240-314-5022. (See story, Page 6.)



### Sept. 25

**Rockville Concert Band** 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. FREE. Donations accepted. 240-314-8690

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# Free Rockville Library Speaker Series Covers Wide Topics Beginning Sept. 22

Book lovers, budding authors, history buffs, or those who just want to learn a bit more about the world can take a closer look at the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, Rockville Pike and other fascinating topics without the hassles of trip planning or traveling this fall. Friends of the Library of Rockville will hold a free, new speaker series featuring four local authors. The monthly events will be held in the Montgomery County Executive Office Building auditorium at 101 Monroe Street in Rockville.

Dan McDermott, a professor emeritus at Montgomery College, a professional photographer and an expert on the C&O Canal, will bring history alive as he illustrates his talk with photos of the historical Chesapeake & Ohio Canal during the first presentation on Thursday, Sept. 22, at 7 p.m. McDermott collaborated with Warren R. Hofstra on maps for *The Planting of New Virginia: Settlement and Landscape in the Shenandoah Valley*. Copies of

the book and matted prints of McDermott's photographs will be available for purchase.

On Thursday, Oct. 27, the series will continue with Susan Coll, author of *Rockville Pike*. Coll has planned a presentation of her thoughts behind the popular, locally-based novel, including how she arrived at the idea. The author, who has lived in the area for 10 years, was inspired to write the book after a day of running errands on the Route 355 corridor.

"I stopped off for a break at the graveyard, saw F. Scott Fitzgerald's tombstone with the moving epitaph that is the last line of *The Great Gatsby*, looked across the street and saw a giant furniture store, and that was it—I knew I had to capture that landscape somehow," she said.

Copies of *Rockville Pike* will be available for sale and signing at the presentation.

Aspiring writers likely will receive helpful tips and hints from Kathleen Jeffrie Johnson and Amy Stolls on Thursday,

Nov. 17, when the two recently-published authors discuss the "how-to's" of getting a book from idea to press.

Johnson, the author of three acclaimed novels for young adults, and Stolls, whose first book *Palms to the Ground* debuted in April 2005, will talk about their own writing and the path to successful publishing.

Johnson's books include *The Parallel Universe of Liars*, *Target*, *A Fast and Brutal Wing* and *Dumb Love*, set for release in September. Copies of their books will be available for purchase and autographing.

All events are open to the public and will be held in the Montgomery County Executive Office Building auditorium at 101 Monroe Street in Rockville. Free parking is available in the nearby County Council Office Building parking garage at the corner of East Jefferson and Monroe Streets.

For more information, call Diane Monnier, Rockville Library senior librarian, at 240-777-0158. [RR](#)

## APFO to be Discussed on September 12

The Mayor and Council on Monday, Sept. 12, will resume discussion of a potential Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) that would give Rockville considerably stronger control over the pace of future growth relative to the City's ability to provide municipal services.

The APFO would require and plan for public facilities to be in place before the City can

adequately serve any new development. Standards that would be addressed by the measure may include school capacity, traffic, police and fire services, and availability of water and sewer capacity.

The worksession is planned for 7 p.m. on Sept. 12.

The Mayor and Council, along with City staff and a consultant, drafted text of an APFO

in fall of 2003. The City's Planning Commission reviewed the document and recommended against adoption as drafted. This summer, the Mayor and Council asked staff to make changes to the original draft.

On Sept. 12, the Mayor and Council can suggest changes that then will be open for discussion at a future public hearing. [RR](#)

## Rockville U. Readies for Fall Semester

The best way for Rockville residents to learn about their City and its government is by attending Rockville University. But time to register for the fall semester is getting short as classes for the next semester of the free citizen learning academy will begin in October.

Rockville University, which is directed by the Rockville City Manager's Office, will meet once a week.

Students will learn a wide range of information about their city, including where the City water comes from; who to call for a building permit; and how the council-manager form of government works. Students also will meet other Rockville residents, cultivate civic leadership, get to know city staff and understand how tax dollars are being spent.

Rockville University is open to any Rockville citizen

age 16 and older. Class size is limited and participants must be able to attend most classes. In addition to the classes held one night each week, there may be Saturday morning field trips to visit City facilities.

To register for Rockville University, call Dwayne Jenkins of Rockville's Neighborhood Resources Program at 240-314-8343 or check [www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/rockvilleu/index.html](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/rockvilleu/index.html). [RR](#)

## Think Globally; Act Locally City Environment Commission Seeks Volunteers for Work Groups

In an effort to provide more opportunities for citizens to actively contribute to helping Rockville's natural environment, the City of Rockville Environment Commission has created work groups that will support the goals of the Commission while encouraging citizens with specific interests to get directly involved making a difference in Rockville.

Three work groups will

each focus on one of the following topics: Education and Outreach; Watersheds and Stormwater Management; and High-Performance Buildings and Energy Efficiency.

"We're looking for citizen input and expertise to help us create recommendations to give to the Mayor and Council on City policies," said Faith Klareich, chair of the Commission on the Environment.

Citizens who are high

school aged and older are welcome to volunteer to participate on the work groups. The groups will meet at the discretion of their members, but generally once per month.

For more information or to volunteer to participate, contact Nate Wall, Community Planning and Development Services Environment specialist for Rockville, at 240-314-8212 or [nwall@rockville.md.gov](mailto:nwall@rockville.md.gov). [RR](#)



**CITY POLICE OPENING EYES TO SAFETY...** A young College Gardens resident smiles at Rockville Police Chief Terry Treschuk during National Night Out in August. Nearly 50 neighborhoods held celebrations to foster community togetherness and increase safety. Call Community Service Officer Jan Seilhamer at 240-314-8922 about holding a party for next year's National Night Out.

### Focus on MENTORING



**Mentoring builds long-lasting friendships and provides important support for youth at College Gardens Elementary School.**

Rockville has many programs that affect the lives of residents. On a regular basis, "Focus On" will take an introspective look at these programs and detail the impact they have for City residents.

Volunteering is one way of giving back to the community, and the City of Rockville has countless opportunities. One extremely valuable program needs caring adult volunteers to share one hour of their time each week during the coming school year as mentors for students at College Gardens Elementary School.

For the ninth consecutive year, the City's Division of Youth and Family Services and College Gardens Elementary will conduct the mentoring program that pairs at-risk elementary-aged children with adults who will provide vital support to their learning and social development.

The mentoring opportunity gives adult volunteers a chance to work one-on-one to help students develop academic and social skills. Mentors are matched with students who share their general interests and strengths.

The program is designed to improve participating students' self esteem and confidence. Mentoring can help motivate at-risk youths, assist them with problem solving and teach them life skills.

"Last year, 30 adults volunteered to make a difference in the lives of these students who have tremendous academic, emotional and social needs," said Mandy Smith, a Youth, Family and Community Services specialist for Rockville. "Not only do the children benefit from the extra support, but many of the mentors say they learn just as much, if not more, from their mentees."

Mentors will go through an interview and screening process. Workshops are provided to support the mentors, and there are field trips and picnics planned as part of the program. Mentors must commit for the school year and be available on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. (with some flexibility). Mentoring begins in October.

Call 240-314-8318 or e-mail [msmith@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:msmith@rockvillemd.gov) for more information. [RR](#)





Rockville publishes all election-related materials that appear in news releases; in the City newsletter *Rockville Reports*; and on the City Web site in Spanish as well as English. Spanish translations of the stories on this page follow the English text.

Rockville voters will go to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 8, to elect a mayor and four councilmembers. There is still time to register to vote. And there is still time to become a candidate for office.

If not already registered,

those eligible to vote can register through Monday, Oct. 10. Registration forms are available at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or at the County Elections Office on 751 Twinbrook Parkway.

City voter rolls are closed 30 days before an election, but the City's Election Ordinance allows eligible Rockville residents to register to vote on Election Day at City Hall (although another location may be designated if City Hall renovations impact voting). Those who register on Election Day must come to City Hall both to register and to vote instead of

going to their regular polling site.

To vote, residents must:

- Be registered to vote either with the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors of Elections or with the City of Rockville as a "City-only" voter
- Be U.S. citizens
- Be at least 18 years old by Nov. 8, 2005

The filing deadline for candidates is Friday, Sept. 9. To run for office, candidates must be Rockville residents for at least one year prior to Election Day.

For more information about the upcoming election, visit the Web: [www.rockville.md.gov](http://www.rockville.md.gov). **RR**



**City of Rockville Clerk's Office staff welcome questions from citizens who are interested in registering to vote. On Election Day, voters can register at City Hall (or another location depending on the building's construction status.)**

## Fechas electorales

El martes 8 de noviembre, los votantes de la Ciudad de Rockville irán a las urnas para elegir al Alcalde y cuatro miembros del Consejo. Todavía hay tiempo para registrarse para votar y también hay tiempo para inscribirse como candidato a los cargos.

Si todavía no están registrados, quienes estén calificados para votar podrán hacerlo hasta el lunes 10 de

octubre. (Otro local será designado si la renovación del edificio del ayuntamiento impide el voto). Los formularios de registro están disponibles en la Oficina del Auxiliar Administrativo del Ayuntamiento, 111 Maryland Ave., o en la Oficina de Elecciones del Condado en 751 Twinbrook Parkway.

Las listas de votantes de la ciudad se cierran 30 días antes de una elección, pero la

Ordenanza de Elecciones de la Ciudad permite que los residentes calificados de Rockville se matriculen para votar en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad el mismo día de la elección. Quienes se registren ese día deben concurrir al Ayuntamiento para registrarse y votar en lugar de presentarse en su lugar habitual de votación.

Para votar, los residentes de Rockville deben:

- Estar registrados para votar en la Junta de Supervisores de Elecciones del Condado de Montgomery o en la Ciudad

de Rockville como votante "solo para la ciudad".

- Ser ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos
- Tener por lo menos 18 años de edad al 8 de noviembre de 2005

La fecha límite para el registro de candidatos es el viernes 9 de septiembre. Para ser candidato a un cargo, las perso-

nas deben haber sido residentes de Rockville por lo menos un año antes del día de la elección.

Para más información acerca de la próxima elección, visite el sitio de la Ciudad en Internet en: [www.rockville.md.gov](http://www.rockville.md.gov). **RR**

— translated by  
Victoria Imas-Duchoyny

## Independent Hosts For TV Debates To Be Considered

Applications Due Sept. 1 to Host Forums

Organizations interested in sponsoring debates or forums televised on the City's cable channel this fall between candidates running for Mayor and Council in Rockville must submit applications to the City by Thursday, Sept. 1.

Organizations interested in hosting debates or forums must meet criteria stated in the City's Campaign Policy.

Although public debates and forums have long been a part of Rockville's election history, this will be the second time any of these events have been televised on The Rockville Channel (cable channel 11). The campaign policy provides for no more than three debates involving the candidates for Mayor and the candidates for the four Council

positions.

The City policy does not affect debates or forums that are held without the goal of being televised on TRC-11.

Organizations applying to host debates or forums must provide an adequate site that meets television needs. This year, for the first time, Rockville will have the capability of broadcasting live from virtually any City facility.

The campaign policy states an organization hosting a debate or forum must be an "independent, non-partisan organization that does not endorse candidates (such as the League of Women Voters) and focuses on citywide issues."

City staff is prohibited from being involved in the events, except for the television production aspect or in possibly providing fa-

cility space. There will be no editing of the productions, except for adding opening and closing graphics, transitions between multiple tapes or to correct technical problems.

If more than three groups apply to be hosts, all that meet the criteria will be placed in a random drawing to determine the three hosting groups.

For further information on hosting televised Rockville Mayor and Council candidate debates and forums, contact Assistant City Manager Catherine Tuck Parrish at 240-314-8103.

## Debates televisados

Las organizaciones interesadas en patrocinar debates o foros que se llevarán a cabo este otoño entre los candidatos que se postulan para Alcalde y el Consejo de la Ciudad de Rockville deben presentar las solicitudes antes del 1 de septiembre al gobierno de la Ciudad. Esas organizaciones deberán satisfacer los criterios indicados en la Política para la Campaña Electoral de la Ciudad, que fue adoptada por el Alcalde

y el Consejo en febrero de este año.

Aunque los debates y los foros públicos han sido desde hace mucho tiempo una parte de la historia electoral de Rockville, esta será la segunda vez que serán transmitidos en el Canal de Rockville (TRC-11). La política para la campaña electoral contempla debates o foros separados entre los candidatos a Alcalde y los candidatos al Consejo, con un máximo de tres encuentros en cada categoría.

La política de la Ciudad no afecta los debates o foros que no se organicen para ser televisados a través de TRC-11.

Las organizaciones que soliciten auspiciar los debates o foros deben disponer de un lugar adecuado que satisfaga las necesidades técnicas de la televisión. Este año por primera vez, Rockville podrá transmitir en vivo desde casi cualquier edificio municipal.

Los debates o foros celebrados en el Ayuntamiento se podrán televisar en vivo.

La política de la campaña electoral establece que una organización que auspicia un debate o un foro debe ser "independiente, no partidaria,

no recomendar a los candidatos y enfocar asuntos de interés de toda la Ciudad" (por ejemplo, la Liga de Mujeres Votantes).

Se prohíbe al personal de la ciudad participar en las actividades, salvo en aspectos de producción televisiva o, eventualmente, para proporcionar espacio en las instalaciones. No se editarán las producciones, pero se agregarán los gráficos de apertura y cierre, se harán las transiciones entre múltiples cintas de grabación o se corregirán problemas técnicos.

Si más de tres grupos solicitan ser anfitriones, todos los que satisfagan los criterios participarán en un sorteo para determinar los tres grupos patrocinantes.

Los interesados en obtener más información sobre el auspicio de debates y foros electorales entre los candidatos a Alcalde y el Consejo deben ponerse en contacto con Catherine Tuck Parrish, Directora Adjunta de la Ciudad, llamando al número 240-314-8103. **RR**

— translated by  
Victoria Imas-Duchoyny



## A Principle in Rockville: Commute to School Safely

One of the five major goals of the Rockville Mayor and Council is to improve pedestrian and traffic safety. When it comes to pedestrian and traffic safety measures that affect students and their routes to school, this goal takes priority status.

The City is already undertaking a series of measures that will make school routes safer as classes begin for the 2005-06 school year. However, the Traffic and Transportation Division of the City's Department of Public Works and Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks also have developed a long-term plan to implement measures that will protect students whether they walk or ride their bicycles to schools in Rockville.

"Improving pedestrian and traffic safety requires more than a lot of attention to just one or two items," said Larry Marcus, Rockville's chief of its Traffic and Transportation Division.



**Rockville Bikeway Coordinator Rod Cruz, left, presents a bicycle safety program to students at Beall Elementary School last spring. That program will continue at Rockville's schools this fall.**

"It demands addressing a wide variety of improvements, and that is exactly the way we have approached through this program."

The new measures will include adding 50 florescent yellow-green signs, "reduced speed" zones, 20 hatched crosswalks, 30 pavement markings that read "SCHOOL," sidewalks and improved traffic control devices.

Along with these improvements, the City will continue to coordinate the Maryland Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education Program, a two-week course developed by pedestrian and bicycle safety experts in coordination with school teachers and administrators. The City developed the model for that program.

For more information about the program, contact Carrie Sanders of Rockville's Department of Public Works at 240-314-8529 or via e-mail at [csanders@rockville.md.gov](mailto:csanders@rockville.md.gov). **RR**



**Lunch goes crowd onto East Montgomery Avenue for "Out to Lunch Wednesdays" music and Farmers' Market through October.**

## Nonprofits Saluted at 'Out to Lunch Wednesdays' on Sept. 7

Each day more than 30 non-profit organizations are working with individuals in Rockville to provide basic health and human services needed to survive and become successful.

For their work, these organizations will be honored by The Rockville Chamber of Commerce, the Rockville business community and the City of Rockville's Human Services Advisory Commission at a special 'Out to Lunch Wednesdays' event on Sept. 7 from 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. on East Montgomery Avenue.

Representatives from caregiver agencies, arts and humanities groups, service clubs, veterans and seniors organizations and others will be on hand with information about their services. Some of the organizations also may sell items and recruit volunteers.

To encourage participants to visit as many booths as possible, a passport will be pro-

vided to attendees. Those who have their passport stamped at six of the booths can enter to win a grand prize drawing for \$2,000. Half of the cash prize will go to the winner and the rest to the nonprofit of his or her choice.

The event also will feature the bi-weekly Rockville Farmers' Market, which sells fresh fruits, vegetables, breads and flowers. The band RockFish will provide live musical entertainment.

In addition to the booths, several interactive activities will take place. Community Ministries' MobileMed vehicle will be on site to provide health screenings and Manna Food Center will hold a box-packing contest.

The Rockville Chamber of Commerce will present an award to a Volunteer Employee Group of the Year.

For more information about the event, contact the Rockville Chamber of Commerce at 301-424-9300. **RR**

## Fall Fun With Rockville's Rec Programs

An array of more than a dozen new classes awaits those looking to learn a new skill, get fit or just have fun in the City this fall. There is still time to register for activities geared toward people of all ages featured in the City of Rockville's Fall 2005 Recreation Guide that was mailed to homes in August.

Combine yoga postures and breathing with stories and interactive games and you get the newly designed "Yoga for Little Bodies" class for ages 3-5. This playful 45-minute session is designed to increase body awareness in young children, and teaches them how to get fit while having fun.

A new series of art classes for children ages 5-7 called "Art Sparks," offers kids a variety of one-hour art experiences. From painting clay pots to cartooning, kids can discern about which art technique they would like to learn more.

Rockville middle schoolers can get fit while having after school fun through "Got 2B Fit" and "Kick It," at Robert Frost and Julius West middle schools, respectively. "Got 2B Fit" samples a variety of activities such as aerobics, yoga and indoor rock climbing and karate. "Kick It" focuses



**The Rockville Swim Center outdoor pools, slides and Sprayground were a hit with kids in summer camps. This fall, the center will offer new indoor activities.**

mainly on kick boxing.

Three new family-focused activities will bring together youth and adults this fall. "Family Chefs" teaches how to make cooking a household affair. Family vacation photos are sure to be improved after taking part in "Photo Bugs"—a digital photography class discussing good composition, lighting and editing software. Or make tuning up the family car together a snap through "Car Basics for Dummies."

And just because the weather is getting cooler, it does not mean that swimming is over. The Rockville Swim Center is offering four new in-

door aquatics classes this fall.

"Aqua Boogie" will get adults moving and shaking in the water. "Aqua Jog" and "H2O Aerobics" use the water's resistance to create excellent, low-impact workouts. Foam water "noodles" are not just for kids during "Noodle-cise," in which adults use the colorful devices in shallow and deep water workouts to strengthen and tone their muscles.

For more information, including times and registration fees, check the Fall 2005 Recreation Guide, call 240-314-8620 or log on to [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) and click **RockEnroll**. **RR**



**MAKING SCHOOL COOL... More than 200 Rockville students received free backpacks with pens, notebooks, paper and more at Rockville's Lincoln Park Community Center on Aug. 20.**

**The Fifth Annual "Back to School Jam" also included music, sno-cones and a moonbounce.**

**In addition to receiving school supplies, students and other family members could register early for the Lincoln Park Community Center's "Kids Room After School" program. The Kids Room features enriching activities for students in kindergarten through eighth grade from 3:30-6 p.m. on school days. For more information, call 240-314-8780.**



# INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the City Government at Work



**GOOD DEEDS RECOGNIZED...** Pictured left to right at the **Third Annual Good Neighbor Awards Ceremony: Mayor Larry Giammo, Jeff Malone of the Red Gate Farms community, Carol Hannaford of Twinbrook, Councilmember Bob Dorsey, Renee Canali of Twinbrook, Councilmember Susan Hoffmann, Marvin Engle of Twinbrook, Councilmember Anne Robbins, Donna Gentry of Fallsmead, Councilmember John Hall, Jr., Robert Silva of King Farm, Doug Campbell of West End, Jackie Lawrence of Potomac Woods, Bob Balkam of King Farm, Dave Oleksa of Twinbrook, Chuck Paluch of West End, and Jamie Thompson representing John Thompson of Orchard Ridge.**

## Mayor and Council Recognize ‘Good Neighbors’

Rockville’s Mayor and Council honored 14 residents on Monday, Aug. 1, with “Good Neighbor Awards” in the third year of a program that recognizes residents who contribute to bettering their communities.

The program, which recognizes citizens who improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods, was created by the Neighborhood Resources Division. The honorees, who received plaques signifying their contributions, were nominated by other residents.

“We often say Rockville is a City that is like a small town, and in small towns, neighbors help neighbors,” said Jenny Kimball, who oversees the Division of Neighborhood Resources in Rockville’s City Manager’s Office. “These are the type of people who make everyone proud to be part of Rockville.”

The nominees had to meet the following criteria to be selected to receive Good Neighbor Awards: Be residents of the City of Rockville; made significant contributions to their neighborhoods or to Rockville during the 2004-05

Good Neighbor Award year; demonstrated efforts beyond the scope of citizen responsibilities and demonstrated concern for their neighborhood’s well-being or overall quality of life for Rockville.

Renee Canali was one of several residents honored for her dedication to the people in the Twinbrook neighborhood. She immediately contacted a number of public and non-profit agencies and private companies to help families affected by an apartment complex fire this past spring. She helped secure clothing, furniture, household supplies and even new mattresses for the 10 relocated families.

Honorees also were selected for a variety of acts including shoveling snow and cutting grass for neighbors who needed assistance; volunteering for organizations that help the homeless; checking on elderly residents following storms; officiating youth league baseball and basketball games; and organizing the drive to name a future City park after Mattie Stepanek, a resident who touched many lives before he died of a rare muscular disease at age 13. **RR**

### Citizens Forums Will Be Twice Most Months

Citizen involvement is vital to the City. One important way citizens can participate in decision making is by voicing their opinions to the Mayor and Council for up to three minutes during the “Citizens Forum” portion of general session meetings.

Beginning in September, Citizens Forum will take place twice during most months. In September, Citizens Forum will be held Mondays, Sept. 12 and 26.

To sign-up to participate or for more information, contact the City Clerk’s office at 240-314-8280. **RR**

## Two Hotels Approved For Fallsgrove

A resolution that will allow the developer of Fallsgrove, one of the City’s newest mixed-use developments, to replace an originally planned office building that could have been as tall as 125 feet (12 stories) with two hotels that will be no taller than 72 feet (six stories) was approved by Rockville’s Mayor and Council in August.

During months of discussion, there were sharply divided opinions from the community on whether the change should be allowed less than five years after the community’s original plan was approved.

In public meetings, some members of the community said they bought their nearby condominiums with the understanding that they would be close to an office building that mostly generated traffic during the day Monday through Friday. Other community members said they supported the hotel proposal, noting that the hotels would not be as tall and that traffic studies say overall traffic generated by the hotels would be less than traffic generated by an office building.

The action by the Mayor and Council will allow Lerner Enterprises to build 200 rooms in hotels totaling 125,000 to 150,000 square feet. The rooms would be split between a Hilton Garden Inn—a traditional-style hotel—and a Homewood Suites, which would be more suited to extended-stay guests. The hotels will share a single site.

The developer made three recent changes in its original proposal for the hotels that would be located on a site on Blackwell Road at Shady Grove Road in the northwest corner of Rockville. In an attempt to have the new hotels better blend with the existing community, the developers agreed to limit the height of the hotels to 72 feet, create a berm that would better screen the hotel from Blackwell Road and said that Fallsgrove condominium residents could use the hotels’ workout rooms and pool free of charge whenever those facilities are open for use by hotel guests.

As part of consideration for the plan change, previously the developers agreed to relinquish the right to develop 75 residential units of the 119 units currently still available to build under the concept plan. This would result in Fallsgrove having a potential maximum buildout of 1,486 residential units, a reduction from the 1,530 units previously approved.

The resolution also permits the developer to construct a 30,000-square-foot office building on nearby Woodhill Road in lieu of building multi-family development on the property.

In addition, the resolution allows the developer the right to locate a child care facility within Fallsgrove, with the site to be determined in the future. The agreement also states that the developer will create a parking lot for 20 vehicles for the exclusive use of existing condominium owners and their guests. **RR**

## Giammo To Chair MML Legislative Committee

Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo has been named chairman of the Maryland Municipal League’s legislative committee. The committee is charged with determining the legislative priorities of the league from proposals received from member municipalities.

Additionally, the legislative committee considers all legislation introduced in the Maryland General Assembly. The committee analyzes the potential effect legislation could have upon municipalities and then suggests positions for the MML to support or oppose such legislation.

MML, which represents 157 municipalities, is the only statewide organization in Maryland composed solely of municipal officials and devoted to the promotion of all

branches of municipal administration.

The legislative committee is composed of approximately 29 members nominated by their chapter, municipality or department and appointed by the MML president. The committee meets approximately every 10 days on a Wednesday or Saturday during the General Assembly session and at other times during the year, at the discretion of the chairman. The committee is responsible for the presentation of the legislative program at the annual fall conference in October.

“MML represents all 157 towns, but its greatest value to Rockville is that it has a team of dedicated and skilled lobbyists,” said Mayor Giammo. “They can get a municipality’s priorities known to legislators across the state.” **RR**



Mayor  
Larry Giammo



Councilmember  
Robert E. (Bob) Dorsey



Councilmember  
John F. Hall, Jr.



Councilmember  
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember  
Anne M. Robbins

### Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month. Call the City Clerk’s Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, the Councilmember scheduled for September is:

- **Monday, Sept. 19:** Susan Hoffmann

### Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel (TRC 11), and are available on streaming video at: [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov). Citizens may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the “Citizens Forum” portion at most general session meetings. All meetings are subject to change.

- **Sept. 12 (Mon.)** Citizens Forum. Worksession: Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance. Discussion of Mansionization. 7 p.m.
- **Sept. 19 (Mon.)** Discussion of Zoning Ordinance Revisions. Joint Worksession with Planning Commission on various applications (tentative). 7 p.m.
- **Sept. 26 (Mon.)** Citizens Forum. Public Hearings (Chestnut Lodge, Community Development Block Grants). Cultural Arts Building Use Permit. 7 p.m.

### Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Environment Commission (one)
- Historic District Commission (one)
- Human Rights Commission (two)
- Recreation and Parks Board (youth)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises (consumer)
- Rockville Scholarship Foundation (one)
- Rockville Seniors, Inc. (one)
- Rockville Sister City Corp. (one)
- Traffic and Transportation (one)

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.





Music of all kinds can be heard at the Rockville Arts and Music Festival on Saturday, Sept. 24

## Mullins, Chili At Sept. 24 Arts and Music Festival

Grammy-nominated recording star Shawn Mullins, who is best known for the hit song “Lullaby,” the 25th annual Hard Times Café International Chili Society Chesapeake Bay Regional Chili Cook-off and a new “Battle of the Bands” will highlight the second annual Rockville Arts and Music Festival on Saturday, Sept. 24, in Courthouse Square Park in Rockville Town Center.

The festival is on its way to becoming one of the biggest annual events for all ages in Rockville. Starting at 12 noon and running until 6:30 p.m., the celebration will focus on a day filled with free live performances combined with the flavorful International Chili Society’s Chesapeake Bay Regional Chili Cook-off. The day will culminate with the soulful sounds of chart-topping acoustic soloist Shawn Mullins at 5 p.m.

“Last year we re-created the Spirit of Rockville into this unique festival that offers entertainment for people of all ages. We anticipate the success of the first Rockville Arts and Music festival to continue this year,” said Mike Henry, Rockville’s special events coordinator.

In the summer of 1998, Mullins’s song, “Lullaby,” became a No. 1 hit on Top 40 and Adult Contemporary radio in the United States and topped many charts internationally. To date, the

album “Soul’s Core,” which includes “Lullaby,” “Shimmer,” “The Gulf of Mexico” and many other classic Mullins recordings, has sold more than two million copies worldwide and was nominated for a Grammy for Best Male Pop Vocal Performance.

Other performers who will be featured at the Arts and Music Festival include those that continue the cultural theme of the City’s former Spirit of Rockville festival event.

Rockville’s diversity will be reflected through an eclectic blend of bands and dancers representing music from around the world. Performers will include Ruthie and the Wranglers (American roots music), Marcus Johnson (Jazz and Hip-Hop rhythms), Charm City Sound (polka music) and the Swingin’ Swamis (swing).

New this year is the first-ever Rockville “Battle of the High School Bands.” The battle, sponsored by radio station Mix 107.3, will pit eight local garage bands against each other in an all-out rockfest. The winning band will receive important recording studio and air time, which could launch it into stardom.

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-5022. **RR**

— by Lindsay Pack

## Dog-gone Wet and Wild Fun

### Third Annual Doggie Dip Day Set for Sept. 10

The Rockville Municipal Swim Center will celebrate the conclusion of a successful summer outdoor swim season with its third annual Doggie Dip Day from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10.

A crowd of more than 400 people (and pets) attended last year’s event, which included dogs of all breeds frolicking in the Swim Center’s outdoor recreation pool. Owners and pets also had the opportunity to check out a variety of dog-focused vendors.

Doggie Dip Day takes place after humans have used the outdoor pools for the last time of the swim season.

Proceeds from the event go to the Montgomery County Humane Society.

“We were thrilled with the number of people and pets who attended the first two Doggie Dip Days,” said Beth Fowler, aquatics supervisor of the Swim Center. “For most dogs, it is a rare opportunity to cool off and play around in a pool. For dog



A pooch cools off at the Rockville Swim Center

owners, it is a chance to keep their pets busy—and meet other dog owners. It turned out to be a good social time last year and should be even better this year.”

Fowler said there also will be a “special guest” everyone will enjoy meeting.

Ben Hogan, an “employee” of the City’s RedGate Municipal Golf Course, will be on hand to shake paws. The main job of Ben Hogan is to roam the course and

scatter geese that can cause maintenance problems.

Staff from the City of Rockville’s off-leash testing program also will give a demonstration of how dogs in the City can qualify to walk without their leashes.

A number of vendors specializing in dog products and services, such as obedience schools and area pet stores, will have booths to answer questions and distribute pet information.

The cost for Doggie Dip Day is \$5 per dog. Owners and guests enter free, unless they will be swimming in the indoor pool or using other Swim Center facilities.

All dogs must be registered with Montgomery County and be under the control of their owners. People will not be allowed to enter the outdoor recreation pool with the dogs due to health and safety conditions. Owners are responsible for picking up all of their animal’s droppings.

For more information, call 240-314-8754. **RR**

## Happy Anniversary for Rockville 10K/5K

### Oldest Continuing Road Race in County Celebrates 30 Years on Oct. 2

Registration is now open for Rockville’s longest running road race—the Rockville 10K/5K—which will celebrate its 30th Anniversary this year.

More than 600 runners are expected to gather in the King Farm Village Center for the start of the race at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 2.

“Most of our 400 shopping centers are unlike King Farm,” said Jenny Hess, senior manager of marketing for Regency Centers, owners of King Farm Village Center, who are sponsoring the event. “With the streets running throughout it,

grassy areas and neighbors living by, the whole setting has a great village feel. It’s a nice area for people to gather.”

The Montgomery County Road Runners Club, in conjunction with the City of Rockville Recreation and Parks Department, will conduct the Rockville 10K/5K. The race will kick off with a rousing stretch routine led by representatives from the Sergeant’s Program. At about 10 a.m., the

race is expected to conclude and awards and prizes will be distributed, including a \$1,000 travel gift certificate as a random prize. Brunch will be provided by restaurants in the King Farm Village Center.

For more information, including fees, race registration or how to volunteer at the race, visit [www.mcrrc.org](http://www.mcrrc.org) by 12 noon Oct. 14, or call 301-460-8888. **RR**

“... the whole setting has a great village feel. It’s a nice area for people to gather.”

— Jenny Hess, Sr. Manager of Marketing, Regency Centers

## Rockville History Tours: Departing from Farmers’ Market

Those purchasing fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and meats at the Rockville Farmers’ Market in September and October also can walk away with more knowledge about Rockville history.

Peerless Rockville, the City’s historic preservation organization, will conduct free, 45-minute guided walking tours of historic Rockville on Wednesdays, Sept. 14 and Oct. 12, and Saturdays, Sept. 24 and Oct. 15.

The Wednesday tours will

meet at the stage located among the Farmer’s Market stands on East Montgomery Avenue in front of Regal Cinemas at 11:45 a.m. On Saturdays, the tour departs at 10:15 a.m. at the Farmers’ Market entrance located in the Juror’s Parking Lot at the corner of East Jefferson Street and Monroe Street.

Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes. All tours are rain or shine. For more information, visit [www.peerlessrockville.org](http://www.peerlessrockville.org) or call 301-762-0096. **RR**



Historic interpreters roam Rockville Town Center streets at Hometown Holidays in May. Similar volunteers offer walking tours of historic Rockville.

## Bike Rockville Pike With Peerless On Sept. 25

Peerless Rockville, the organization dedicated to preserving the City’s history, is teaming up with the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee to offer a unique lesson about the role Rockville Pike has played in Rockville’s history. But the learning will not take place in a classroom—it will happen on a bicycle.

On Saturday, Sept. 25, from 8:30 a.m.-12 noon, the free historic bicycle ride will tour

Route 355 from King Farm to Montrose School. Frequent stops along the way will feature Peerless Rockville volunteers explaining the significant historic elements of Rockville Pike.

All ages and levels of bicycle riding experience are welcome. Helmets are required for all participants.

For more information, visit [www.peerlessrockville.org](http://www.peerlessrockville.org) or call 301-762-0096. **RR**



## In Brief

### Talk it Out to Work it Out

The Rockville Human Rights Commission sponsors a Community Mediation Program for City residents and persons that have experienced conflict in Rockville. If you have experienced discrimination in a work or public place, or if you are experiencing another type of conflict and would like a mutually beneficial resolution to a dispute, call 240-314-8316. The program is free and confidential.

CALL **240-314-8316** FOR INFO

## Limit Fall Fertilizers

Lush green lawns look great, but using an excessive amount of fertilizer can do more harm than good. During rainstorms, excess chemicals placed on lawns are washed into storm drains and into Rockville’s streams. This extra fertilizer can reduce drinking water quality, and can harm fish and other aquatic organisms.

The City of Rockville Environment Commission urges residents to skip fall fertilizers or use limited amounts to help protect our environment.

CALL **240-314-8212** FOR INFO

## Red Brick Courthouse History Exhibits

Rockville’s early beginnings, its World War II period, and its experiences with integration are just a few of the subjects now on display at the Red Brick Courthouse in Rockville.

The exhibits are conducted by Peerless Rockville, the organization committed to preserving Rockville’s history. The Red Brick Courthouse displays are free and open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

CALL **301-762-0096** FOR INFO

## Special Fitness Rates at Lincoln Park CC

For a little over \$4 per month, Rockville City residents can take advantage of the modern workout equipment at Rockville’s Lincoln Park Community Center to stay healthy and fit.

An annual membership to the fitness center is now just \$50 for residents and \$75 for non-residents, making it one of the best deals in the area.

The facility is open from 9 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Beginning on Oct. 30, it also will be open Sundays from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The fitness center features treadmills, elliptical trainers, stationary bikes, stepping machines, free weights, York weight machines and a cable cross-over. Classes are available for an additional fee.

The Lincoln Park Community Center is located at 357 Frederick Avenue.

CALL **240-314-8780** FOR INFO


## Most City Facilities Closed Labor Day

Rockville City Hall will be closed on Monday, Sept. 5, as the City joins in the celebration of Labor Day.

In addition to City Hall, most Rockville facilities and programs will not be in operation on Sept. 5, or will operate on a limited basis. The City will not be collecting refuse or recycling on the holiday. Residents with scheduled collections for that day should put out their refuse or recycling on the next regularly scheduled collection day.

The Rockville Municipal Swim Center will be open from 12 noon to 9 p.m. on Labor Day. The RedGate Municipal Golf Course will operate on weekend hours (opening at sun-up at about 6:30 a.m.) and at weekend rates (green fees of \$34 for nine holes for residents, \$38 for nonresidents).

CALL **240-314-5000** FOR INFO



**THE BEAT GOES ON...The Rockville Concert Band is kicking off its 2005-06 season with a free performance of show tunes, marches and other American favorite melodies on Sunday, Sept. 25, at 3 p.m. at the F. Scott Fitzgerald theatre.**

### CITY

**3,10,17,24** **Growers Only Farmers’ Market** Local farmers come together to sell fruit, bread, flowers and more every Saturday until Oct. 29. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Route 28 and Monroe Street. 240-314-5022

**7,14,21,28** **Out To Lunch Wednesdays** Free concert series and Farmers’ Market every Wednesday during lunchtime in Town Center. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. East Montgomery Avenue. FREE. 240-314-5022

**10** **Doggie Dip Day** Wet and wild fun as dogs are allowed to swim in the City’s municipal outdoor pools in third annual event. 12 noon-4 p.m. Rockville Swim Center. \$5 per dog. 240-314-8750.

**11** **Happy Birthday, Montgomery County** Family history activities, food, talks and memorable characters in an historical setting. 1-5 p.m. Beall-Dawson Park. FREE. 301-762-1492

**14** **Walking Tour of Historic Rockville** Guided 45-minute tour of historic Rockville sponsored by Peerless Rockville. 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Departs from stage on East Montgomery Avenue. FREE. 301-762-0096

**24** **Rockville Arts & Music Festival** Hard Times Chili Cook-Off, free concerts, dance performance, kids activities and much more. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Rockville Town Center. 240-314-5022

**24** **Walking Tour of Historic Rockville** Guided 45-minute tour of historic Rockville sponsored by Peerless Rockville. 10:15-11 a.m. Departs from Farmer’s Market entrance at corner of Route 28 and Monroe Street. FREE. 301-762-0096

**25** **Bike the Rockville Pike** Bike partially-closed historic Rockville Pike, with interpretive stops. Sponsored by the Rockville Bicycle Committee and Peerless Rockville. 8:30 a.m.-12 noon. Tour follows Route 355

## september calendar of events

RES. = Residents • NR. = Non Residents • MEM. = Member • NM. = Non Member

**25** **Rockville Concert Band** 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. FREE. Donations accepted. 240-314-8690

**NATURE**  
*All programs are at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Register by mail, online at [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8770*

**14** **Tiny Tot Walk, Tyke Hike–Squirrel Nut Zippers** Fall is a great time to search for nuts and the animals that eat them. Tiny Tot Walk (Ages 1 1/2-2): 10:30-11:15 a.m. Tike Hike (Ages 3-6): 1-2 p.m. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

**16,17,18** **Cape May Adventure Weekend** Bird walks, Wetlands Institue visit, exploring Cape May and more. Costs include hotel room for two nights, two breakfasts, ferry and tour charges, transportation and leadership. Indicate roommate on registration form. Register by Sept. 5. 12 p.m. Friday-3 p.m. Sunday. Ages 18 –over. \$280 RES/\$320 NR.

**23** **Spider Search** With flashlights in hand, look for these eight-legged wonders. 7-8 p.m. All ages. \$4 RES/\$5 NR

**SENIORS**  
All programs are at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, unless noted. Phone: 240-314-8800

**6,8** **Computers - HELP and More** 1-3 p.m. \$7 MEM/\$10 NM

**7** **September Birthday and Anniversary Party** 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. Register by Aug. 31

**13** **Hurricanes: Curse of the Eastern Seaboard** 10:30 a.m.-12 noon. FREE. Register by Sept. 6

**13,14** **Watercolor-Experimental** 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$27 MEM/\$30 NM. Register by Sept. 6

from King Farm to Montrose School. 301-762-0096

**ARTS**  
*The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville’s Civic Center Park. Arts Hotline: 240-314-5006. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre). Service charges apply.*

**1- Oct.16** **Sculpture on the Grounds Juried Regional Show - Varied Media** Rockville Civic Center Park. FREE. 240-314-8681

**2-27** **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery: Anne Cook - paintings. Richard Pumphrey - sculpture. Sohayla Vafai - mixed media** Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Tues. and Thurs. 9 a.m.- 9 p.m. Reception Sunday, Sept. 11 1- 4 p.m. Rockville Civic Center Park. FREE. 240-314-8682

**3,4** **Victorian Lyric Opera Company: Gilbert and Sullivan** Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Tickets: \$20 adults, \$15 children and seniors. 240-314-8690

**10** **National Philharmonic: Pallavi Mahidhara Piano Recital** 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Tickets: \$25, \$18, \$11. 240-314-8690

**11** **Sunday Afternoon Concert Series: Muse and Music - Davie Walders, poet. Douglas Wolters, cello.** Concert in Glenview Mansion’s conservatory celebrates the opening of this month’s art exhibition. 2 p.m. Glenview Mansion. FREE. 240-314-8682

**16,17,23,24,30** **Rockville Little Theatre: The Man Who Came to Dinner** Midwestern values clash with show business glamour in this classic comedy. 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Tickets: \$14 adults, \$12 children and seniors. 240-314-8690

### BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

*All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise noted.*

**10** **Board of Appeals**, 9:30 a.m.

**13** **Human Services Advisory Commission**, 7:30 p.m., Suite 205, 20 Courthouse Square

**13** **Commission on the Environment**, 7:30 p.m.

**14** **Planning Commission**, 7 p.m.

**14** **Cultural Arts Commission**, 7 p.m.

**14** **Sign Review Board**, 4 p.m. (held as needed)

**15** **Historic District Commission**, 7 p.m.

**15** **Rockville Sister City Corporation**, 7:30 p.m.

**15** **Senior Citizens Commission**, 10 a.m., Senior Center

**20** **Rockville Seniors, Inc.**, 1 p.m., Senior Center

**20** **Town Center Action Team**, 7 p.m., Room 105, Red Brick Courthouse

**20** **Landlord/Tenant Commission**, 5:30 p.m.

**21** **Rockville Housing Enterprises**, 6:30 p.m., 14 Moore Dr.

**22** **Recreation and Parks Board**, 7 p.m., Falls Grove Community Center

**27** **Traffic and Transportation Commission**, 7:30 p.m.

**28** **Planning Commission**, 7 p.m.

**28** **Human Rights Commission**, 7:30 p.m.

**30** **Rockville Economic Development, Inc. Board Meeting**, 7:30 a.m., 95 Monroe Street (call 301-315-8096)



# Rockville Up Close: Garden Club of College Gardens

Residents help shape Rockville through involvement with neighborhood and civic associations and participation on Mayor and Council-appointed Boards and Commissions. On a regular basis, Rockville Up Close will take an in-depth look at these organizations.

For the last 30 years, the City of Rockville and The Garden Club of College Gardens have worked jointly at landscaping and maintaining a large hill located at the corner of Nelson Street and College Parkway, which is the entrance to the College Gardens community.

But just as communities grow and change, so has the foliage on the hill. Club members have diligently continued to maintain the space for decades.



College Gardens Garden Club members stand by the hill at the entrance to their community. Members are holding a fundraiser to raise the necessary funds to work with the City to repair the hill.

“The climate is changing, the trees are growing up, the supportive timbers are wearing out, and some of the plants are not getting enough sunlight,” said Ellen Dutka, a club member.

The club, which boasts more than 50 active members and organizes numerous community service projects each year, is spearheading a new project to

restore the College Gardens “hill” to the grand entrance it was when it was first created.

The \$25,000 project includes professionally installing new supportive walls to prevent further erosion, creating a new medallion and seating area and adding shrubbery that is more suitable to the climate. Even the hidden and in disrepair sign that reads “Maintained by the Garden Club of College Gardens” will receive a facelift.

To raise the needed project funds, the club will conduct a community tag sale on Saturday, Sept. 24, at several homes primarily on Princeton, Baylor and Duke Streets in the neighborhood from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. In the event of rain, the tag sale will be held the next day.

For more information, call 301-340-6974. [RR](#)

## Volunteer Time: Rockville Library

There are many ways to share talent, experience, expertise and time with individuals or organizations by volunteering in the City. Each month “Volunteer Time” highlights a different opportunity to promote an interest in giving back to the community.

The Montgomery County Humane Society (MCHS) will open the refurbished doors of “The Ark” this fall, giving it the ability to save more than just two of every animal.

The Ark, a private retail and pet grooming store whose total proceeds benefit the MCHS, was established in 2002 to raise extra funds to help the homeless animals of the county. Thanks to an anonymous \$100,000 donation, the store has since been able to turn half of its building into a kennel where animals will be adopted from the shelter and housed until adopted by the public.

“Having this kennel space will allow us to save the lives of more animals,” said Sharon Kessler, executive director of the MCHS.

With the expansion of the facility, however, comes a need for many more volunteers, which are a commodity that the humane society needs desperately.

The shelter, founded in Silver Spring in 1958, was moved in 1976 to its current Rothgeb Drive location in Rockville, where it annually services 10,000 animals and the animal-related needs of about 100,000 Montgomery residents.

Jobs in most need of volunteers include information desk helpers, animal handlers, the shelter’s Mobile Adoption Unit (MAU) and positions at the new Ark rescue facility.

Volunteers can be as young as 14 for some jobs, and are only required to commit two hours of their time per week.

Check out opportunities to share your time at [www.mchu mane.org](#). To volunteer, contact Megan Sproles at 240-773-5969 or email at [mchsvolunteer@comcast.net](#). [RR](#)

– by Lindsay Pack

## Learn English With the City

Although Rockville residents claim many different nationalities, one commonality citizens share is communicating through English.

For those who wish to learn English or improve their reading and writing skills in the language, there are a variety of programs available in and around the City.

Community Ministries of Rockville (CMR), a local non-profit organization, is expanding its free English classes for the Latino community. The group has added Meadow Hall Elementary School as a learning location in addition to centers at Twinbrook and Maryvale Elementary Schools and several of its member congregations.

One unique asset to all of the programs CMR offers is that children of the participants

can receive tutoring help with homework while their parents learn English. Interested persons should call 301-762-8682, ext. 343, to register.

“When people have a good command of the English language you can see the difference of parents participating more in their children’s education and they get better jobs,” said Agnes Saenz, CMR managing director.

The Chinese Culture and Community Service Center (CCCSC) also will offer free English classes for Rockville residents of all ages, languages and abilities at the Montrose Community Center, Lincoln Park Community Center and the Rockville Senior Center. Interested persons should call 240-631-1200 for more information. Registration starts Sept. 10. [RR](#)



People of all ages and backgrounds can learn English with the City. Programs are now registering for fall classes throughout Rockville, including those for members of the Rockville Senior Center.

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL SEPTEMBER PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE						
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 Midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission ▼	Historic District Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Historic District Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
6 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 a.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 a.m.	Red Light Green Light	Health Wise	Air Quality Codes	TRC 20th Anniversary	Air Quality Codes	Health Wise	Air Quality Codes
7:30 a.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
8 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
8:30 a.m.	Historic District Commission ▼	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▼
9 a.m.	▼	Red Light Green Light	RISE	Caregivers: Mentoring	Red Light Green Light	TRC 20th Anniversary	▼
9:30 a.m.	▼	Historic Preservation	Air Quality Codes	Red Light Green Light	Air Quality Codes	Mediation	▼
10 a.m.	▼	TRC 20th Anniversary	Health Wise	Mediation	Historic Preservation	Health Wise	▼
10:30 a.m.	▼	Caregivers: Mentoring	Red Light Green Light	Caregivers: Mentoring	RISE	Air Quality Codes	▼
11 a.m.	▼	RISE	Historic Preservation	Mediation	Health Wise	Red Light Green Light	TRC 20th Anniversary
11:30 a.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
12:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
1 p.m. until meeting ends	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Historic District Commission ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
4 p.m.	RISE	▼	Red Light Green Light	RISE	▼	RISE	▼
4:30 p.m.	Red Light Green Light	RISE	Mediation	TRC 20th Anniversary	RISE	Red Light Green Light	RISE
5 p.m.	Historic Preservation	Air Quality Codes	Health Wise	Historic Preservation	Air Quality Codes	TRC 20th Anniversary	Health Wise
5:30 p.m.	Air Quality Codes	TRC 20th Anniversary	Historic Preservation	Health Wise	TRC 20th Anniversary	Historic Preservation	Red Light Green Light
6 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 p.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
7 p.m.	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Historic Preservation	Planning Commission ▼	Historic Preservation	Mayor & Council ▼	Historic Preservation
7:30 p.m.	▼	▼	Mediation	▼	Caregivers Mentoring	▼	RISE
8 p.m.	▼	▼	Air Quality Codes	▼	Health Wise	▼	TRC 20th Anniversary
8:30 p.m.	▼	▼	TRC 20th Anniversary	▼	Mediation	▼	Air Quality Codes
9 p.m.	▼	▼	Health Wise	▼	RISE	▼	Health Wise
9:30 p.m.	▼	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline
10 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
10:30 p.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
11 p.m.	Health Wise	TRC 20th Anniversary	Caregivers: Mentoring	Mediation	RISE	TRC 20th Anniversary	Air Quality Codes
11:30 p.m.	Historic Preservation	Air Quality Codes	Mediation	TRC 20th Anniversary	Caregivers: Mentoring	RISE	Mediation